

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace the originally filed claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (new): A cryogenic fluid pumping system, comprising at least one cryogenic fluid tank, a cryogenic pump having an inlet pressure drop (NPSH) and a suction line connecting said tank to said pump, wherein it comprises means for controlling the pressure in the suction line comprising control means for pressurizing and depressurizing the tank, for maintaining the pressure in the suction line at most as high as the cryogenic fluid saturation pressure plus the inlet pressure drop (NPSH) of the cryogenic pump.

Claim 12 (new): The pumping system of claim 11, wherein said control means comprise a pressure sensor and a temperature sensor for respectively determining the pressure and temperature of the cryogenic fluid in the suction line, supplying signals to a control unit for controlling said pressurization means and depressurization means.

Claim 13 (new): The pumping system of claim 12, wherein said pressurization and depressurization control means comprise a tank pressurizing valve and a tank depressurizing valve.

Claim 14 (new): The pumping system of claim 12, wherein said control means comprise a computation unit for calculating, from the temperature measured by said temperature sensor, a minimum value of the pressure measured by said pressure sensor equal to the liquid saturation pressure at said temperature, plus the inlet pressure drop (NPSH) of the pump.

Claim 15 (new): The pumping system of claim 11, wherein it comprises at least two cryogenic fluid tanks arranged in parallel, at least one tank being filled with cryogenic fluid during the drainage of another tank.

Claim 16 (new): The pumping system of claim 11, wherein said tanks are filled with saturated cryogenic fluid with its vapor.

Claim 17 (new): The pumping system of claim 11, wherein said cryogenic fluid is a low density fluid.

Claim 18 (new): The pumping system of claim 17, wherein said low density cryogenic fluid is hydrogen or helium.

Claim 19 (new): The pumping system of claim 11, wherein the tank is pressurized using a pressurized gas source.

Claim 20 (new): The pumping system of claim 19, wherein the pressurizing gas of the pressurized gas source is part of the fluid pressurized by the pump.